



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re U.S. Patent Application of

SAITO *et al.*

Application Number: 09/881,716

Filed: June 18, 2001

For: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND PROCESS  
FOR PRODUCTION THEREOF

Attorney Docket No. TSUT.0013

Honorable Assistant Commissioner  
for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Art Unit 2811

Examiner Costanzo

#11/Election  
10/8/02  
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**RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111**

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated August 27, 2002, the shortened period for response to which will expire on September 27, 2002. Applicants hereby elect the continuing prosecution of Embodiment I, Figures 1-9, Claims 1-4, 7-12, 18 and 20, without traverse.

**REMARKS**

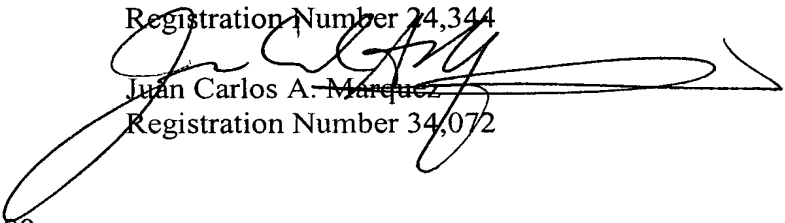
The above election along with the following remarks are being submitted as a full and complete response to the Official Action dated August 27, 2002, the period for response to which will expire on September 27, 2002. The Examiner is respectfully requested to review the substance of Embodiment I, Figures 1-9, Claims 1-4, 7-12, 18, 20 and to indicate the allowability of the claims.

Claims 1-4, 7-12, 18 and 20 have been elected in this application, while the other claims 5-6, 13-17, 19 are withdrawn from further prosecution without prejudice. Applicants hereby reserve the right to file a divisional application on any or all of the non-elected claims.

Substantive consideration of the elected claims is respectfully solicited. Should there be any outstanding issues requiring discussion that would further the prosecution and allowance of the above-captioned application, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative at the address and phone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

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**September 27, 2002**